

May 14, 2009

VIRGINIA MAIN STREET

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



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- VMS Spring Feature and VDDA Annual Workshop
- VCA Conference: Creating Arts and Cultural Districts
- Virginia Electronic Commerce Technology Workshops
- Entrepreneur Express Workshops
- Virginia Main Street Summer Toolkit: *Date Change*

Announcements:

- 2009 Save America's Treasures Grant Round Announced
- Challenge America: NEA grant opportunity
- Virginia Main Street blog update

Virginia Main Street community events:

- Bedford: Bedford Blues & BBQ
- Franklin: Patriotism in the Park
- Harrisonburg: Renaissance Night Fundraiser
- South Boston: Ducks on the Dan Derby Duck Race
- Warrenton: 13th Annual Father's Day Car Show
- Waynesboro: 4th Annual Muscle Car Show

Training opportunities

VMS Spring Feature and VDDA Annual Workshop: *Lessons for a Livable Community and Downtown Housing Options and Opportunities*
May 27 and 28: Harrisonburg

Increased demand for downtown housing promises the next leap forward in the revitalization of traditional commercial districts. Seniors, young professionals, pet owners, students, even those choosing to live without a car are all checking out the options. Is your downtown ready? Join Virginia Main Street (VMS) and the Virginia Downtown Development Association (VDDA) in exploring housing options and amenities that create a livable community downtown. More information and registration at: www.dhcd.virginia.gov/mainstreet and: www.downtownvirginia.org.
Registration ends Monday, May 18.

VCA Conference: Building Arts and Cultural Districts
May 15, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Fredericksburg

Explore the potential of newly enacted legislation that enables every community in Virginia to create an arts and cultural district. For more information and registration, visit: www.vaartsandculture.blogspot.com.

Virginia Electronic Commerce Technology Workshops

May 20 and 21: Petersburg: Adobe Dreamweaver Two-Day Tutorial

May 21: Lebanon :Websites for Nonprofits

May 26: Farmville: Creating E-Newsletters

More information on additional trainings near you is available online at:

www.vectec.org/education/index.php.

Entrepreneur Express Workshops

May 20: Kilmarnock

May 29: Petersburg

June 05: Chesapeake

June 19: Virginia Beach

The series of free Entrepreneur Express Workshops provides interactive discussions and exercises covering key elements of business practices. More information is available online at: www.vastartup.org.

Virginia Main Street Summer Toolkit - *Date Change*

July 29 and 30: Winchester

Mark your calendar for this rescheduled workshop for communities at more advanced stages of downtown revitalization, VMS will have additional information on topics and speakers for the Summer Tool Kit session soon.

Announcements

2009 Save America's Treasures Grant Round

Due May 22

Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites, including historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. For more information, visit:

www.saveamericastreasures.org.

NEA Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants

Due May 28

The arts can play an important role in downtown life. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Challenge America Fast-Track grants enable organizations, particularly those that are small or mid-sized, to extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations - those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

Fundable projects begin after Jan. 1, 2010 and include civic design, public art, cultural districts and arts events. Applications are due on May 28, 2009. Visit: www.nea.gov for more information on [Challenge America Fast Track Grants](#).

Virginia Main Street Blog

New posts are added each week to the [Virginia Main Street Blog](#), so mark it as a favorite or sign up for an RSS feed. Recent posts cover recent [regional gatherings](#) in Harrisonburg and Marion and the economic value of [downtown arts and cultural districts](#). A new blog page now links to all of the [Virginia Main Street communities](#). Visit the blog and see what's new in other Main Street communities around the commonwealth.

Virginia Main Street Community Events

- **Bedford, *Bedford Blues & BBQ***

Saturday, June 13, 5 - 10 p.m.

Center & Washington Street

A fun-filled evening of great food and music by Roadhouse and Eli Cook. There will be BBQ cook-off hosted by the Ruritan Club of Bedford that will be cooking their own signature BBQ. They are still accepting applications for the bbq cook-off competitors and food and craft vendors. Admission is \$5. For more information e-mail: laura@centertownbedford.com

BBQ Competitor Application >> [URL](#)

Food and Craft Vendor Application >> [URL](#)

- **Franklin, *Patriotism in the Park***

Sunday, June 28, 5 - 8 p.m.

Barrett's Landing Gazebo

For more information on this outdoor performance by the U.S. Navy Atlantic Fleet Wind Ensemble, visit: www.downtownfranklinva.org. Music begins at 6 p.m..

- **Harrisonburg, *Renaissance Night Fundraiser***

Saturday, May 16, 6:30 p.m.

Wear your 1960's best to this dinner dance and silent auction. More information is at: www.downtownharrisonburg.org.

- **South Boston: *Ducks on the Dan Derby Duck Race***

May 16, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Dan River in Downtown South Boston will be awash in yellow as racing ducks and their adoptive families flock to downtown to watch the big race. More information on how you can volunteer and participate is at: www.ducksonthedan.com.

- **Waynesboro: *4th Annual Muscle Car Show***

May 16, 2 - 5 p.m.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. For more information visit: www.waynesborodowntown.org.

- **Warrenton: 13th Annual Father's Day Car Show**

June 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The e-newsletter is a monthly service of the Virginia Main Street office in the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. To include an announcement of an upcoming training opportunity or local event, please contact Program Administrator Doug Jackson.

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